

## EDITORIAL

Our last issue of the Quarterly Punjab dey Rang (Vol. XI Issue 1) was the first to be published using the new format, which has been appreciated by our readers, as the feed-back shows. The present issue is also published on the same pattern and format. However, it carries articles and current affairs columns of multiple types pertaining to history of Punjab.

Our regular contributor, Sardar Nanak Singh Nishter, who is also a scholar of very high repute, this time comes with a very interesting paper on the Sher-e-Punjab, Maharaja Ranjit Singh. He delineates in this article a fairly comprehensive description of the time of the greatest Punjabi ruler, otherwise a very down to earth man, who never used for himself the epithets like Raja, Maharaja, King or Emperor. The present article tells of his life-style, his keen sense of delight in beauty, colour and gaiety and the secret of his successes in the battle-fields as also the winning of the hearts of the masses. He also throws light on the important Muslim Fakir family, which remained associated with him throughout his life and served him well telling the world how peaceful was the reign where adherents of different faiths remained assimilated as one entity.

The Fakir family's contribution in historical terms in the successful forty years of rule of

the Maharaja also comes to light in this piece of writing.

Another of our highly qualified and an established writer, Professor Dr. Jasbir Kaur of the Punjabi Development Department, Punjabi University, Patiala, has contributed a scholarly article entitled, "Guru Arjan Dev Ji, Jiwan Bani Tey Shakhsiat". It very aptly describes pious life of the Guru Ji, his sacrifices for humanity while denoting his life as the best example for the Sikhs of any time and any place.

In our permanent feature of 'Samay di Gall' or the Current Affairs, we have summarized the celebrations of happy events or observation of the proceedings of remembrances of rather sad though not necessarily discouraging happenings in the history of Punjab. Under this title, both in English and Punjabi are reported the occasions of Vesakhi, Memorials to the Sikh Massacres of 1984, Martyrdom Anniversary of Guru Arjan Dev Ji and the 178<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Ihsan H. Nadiem  
Chief Editor

## THE REAL RANJIT SINTH

Sardar Nanak Singh Nishter

"The Real Ranjit Singh" is the title of a book published by Lion Art Press, Karachi in May 1965 (1<sup>st</sup> edition) written by a Pakistani historian, Syed Fakeer Waheeduddin, the great grandson of Fakeer Azizuddin, Maharaja's Foreign Minister, brings out the secular character of the Maharaj a giving very intimate facts based on family records and archives. It is a personal account of Maharaja's rule of justice, his secular politics, his conquests and empire building. The Maharaja never sat upon a throne but held his durbar sitting cross-legged on a chair. He never added any royal emblem to his turban or attire. He used to tell his courtiers, "I am a peasant and a soldier, and do not care for external pomp. My sword is enough to win for me all the distinction I need". He treated his subjects equally, without distinction of caste or creed. He had respect and befriended Fakir family, which would serve him truly and well as a spiritual guardian of the new state. According to the book the Maharaja is fondly remembered by one and all, not only by people who once lived there but also by those who still reside there. He had a keen sense of delight in beauty, colour and gaiety in his surroundings. His courtiers, councilors and military officers were among the best-looking and most magnificently dressed men of their time. It is doubtful if any

contemporary court in Europe possessed such a grandeur as the court of Sarkar-i-Khalsa in Lahore. Fakir Azizuddin attributed Ranjit Singh's lack of interest in his looks and dress to an utter lack of personal vanity and humble acceptance of a disadvantage which it had pleased God to inflict on him. He had a deeply pitted face, a blind eye and a diminutive figure and he wasted no time or money on trying to improve it. Fakir Azizuddin also endorses the well-known exchange of remarks between Ranjit Singh and Akali Phula Singh, the Nihang Chief and Jathedar of Akal Takhat. One day, while the Maharaja was passing under Phula Singh's balcony riding on an elephant, the Jathedar shouted down at him, "O you one-eyed man, who gave you that he-buffalo to ride on?" Ranjit Singh looked up and said with mock humility, "Your Honour, it is a gift from you." Akali Phula Singh represented Khalsa Sarkar and Maharaja Ranjit Singh considered himself a humble servant (sevadar) only.

Fakir Nuruddin, the Home Minister, was also in charge of Maharaja's palaces and the harem. Ranjit Singh's favourite queen, however, was Moran, a dancing girl of Amritsar, with whom he fell violently in love at first sight when he was just twenty-two. Ranjit Singh accepted all the conditions of Moran's father to marry her as per custom of the courtesan's

family. After this marriage, Akali Phula Singh reprimanded Maharaja Ranjit Singh and he presented himself at the Akal Takhat to receive the 'tankhah' (religious punishment) imposed by the Jathedar, by baring his back to receive the lashes.

Even during his conquests he was regarded more as a liberator than a conqueror as at Peshawar, Multan or Kashmir. Wherever the soldiers of Ranjit Singh went they were treated as friends, not foes. Maharaja's standing orders to his armies were that during their movement, no religious place, no religious book, no place of learning, no standing crop was to

be destroyed and no woman dishonoured.

Capital punishment was abolished. "Never was so large an empire built with so little criminality", says Princep. The Maharaja is not known to have taken anybody's life although his own life was attempted at more than once. His special care for the 'Kisan' (farmer) and the 'Jawan' (soldier) made Punjab a very liveable place. The result was that people from Delhi, UP and Rajasthan came and settled in Punjab. George Keene, a very keen observer of the Punjab scene, states: "In hundreds and in thousands the orderly crowds stream on. Not a bough is broken



of a wayside tree, not a rude remark to a woman".

Writing sixty years after the Maharaja's death, Griffin said: "His name is a household word in the province. His portrait is preserved in the castle and in the cottage alike." Jacquemont, the French botanist who came from Paris to Punjab in search of roses and who met the Maharaja, said, "His conversation is a nightmare. He passes from one subject to another with the speed of a tornado. He remembers by heart the names of all the villages of his empire, the village heads, the cash crops, the flora and the fauna." He was a modern mind unfettered by nationalities, religion and faiths, an internationalist who looked much beyond his frontiers.

The French visitor called Ranjit Singh "the first inquisitive Indian" who completely identified himself with the joys and sorrows of his people, magnanimous to the fallen foe and generous to the injured and the insulted. Ranjit Singh was the last Indian king in whose reign the common man felt real freedom. The repartee and the freedom of speech that existed in the court of Maharaja Ranjit Singh could be the envy of any parliamentary forum. Maharaja Ranjit Singh was one of those rare rulers who remained humane even on the battlefield. He possessed an informal yet a disciplined mind, with a hilarious yet an equable temperament, humorous yet not given to levity.

A son of the soil, his humour was an integral part of the Punjabi character. Like all Punjabis he loved the banter and burlesque, yet suffered no fools. When his Muslim wife formerly a courtesan, asked him where he was when the God Almighty was distributing beauty, the Maharaja twinkled his only eye and said: "I had gone in search of a kingdom." During his 40-year rule there was not a single communal riot in his kingdom, no forced conversion, no second-class citizenry, no disrespect to a shrine or a mosque.

On the other hand he donated several mounds of gold for the Vishwanath Temple at Benares and Saraswati Mandir at Kurukshetra. He gave liberal grants to mosques and the Madarsas (Muslim schools). He was a far-sighted man who made many Punjabis learn English. He established the first printing press in Gurmukhi (Punjabi language script) at Lahore. He respected talent and asked the Punjabi traders to go abroad and trade with other nations. He thus freed Punjab from the slavery of eight centuries, brought peace and prosperity to the land of five rivers. The ravaged fields smiled once again, Punjab once again became the cherished "golden sparrow".

The Indian Prince of Hyderabad, the Nizam, extended his hand of friendship to him and sent enormous gifts. The Kings of Nepal, Burma, the Czar of Russia and the Emperor of France wanted their embassies to be established at Lahore.

## Vesakhi Celebrations in Pakistan 2017

Sardar Amreek Singh



The Sikh community arrived in Pakistan on 12<sup>th</sup> of April to celebrate the Vesakhi festival and was taken directly to Gurdwara Panja Sahib, Hassan Abdal by train. It had been the most important and traditional place for Sikhi to celebrate the Vesakhi at this particular shrine. After taking part in religious rites for three days, the Sikhs arrived at Nankana Sahib and then reached Lahore. During their stay in Lahore, Dyal Singh Research & Cultural Forum, in accordance with its past tradition, arranged an International Seminar beside a TV Talk and publication of the special number of Quarterly Punjab dey Rang. A brief report on Programme is given below:

Dyal Singh Research & Cultural Forum had arranged an International Seminar under the title “Kanka di Mukh Gaye Rakhi....Aaj Punjabi Manawan Vesakhi” on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2017 from 1100 to 1300 hrs in the spacious and

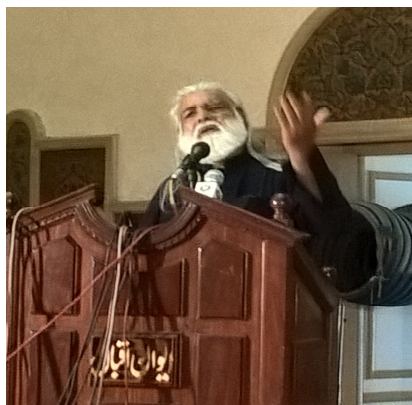
prestigious Hall of Aiwan-e-Iqbal. Malik Muhammad Rafiq Rajwana, the honourable Governor of Punjab was the chief guest of the ceremony. The seminar was attended by more than 500 Sikh yatrees. The programme was started with recitation of Surah Akhlas by Mr. Imran Khan, Deputy Secretary Shrines, while Sardar Manmohan Singh Khalsa, recited the Mool Mantar of Guru Granth Sahib. A gist of the views presented in the Seminar is given here below.

**Ihsan H. Nadiem (Director DSRCE)** welcomed the Sikh yatrees on their yatra of Pakistan and thanked them on their taking out time to attend the Seminar. He described that the purpose of the creation of Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh Ji was to give a distinct and obvious shape to Sikh religion, as some anti-Sikhs powers in the past had been conspiring to assimilate the Sikhi into Brahmanism. He said that they were fortunate to have visited their sacred places related to



their Guru Sahiban lying on this side of the divide. In the end of his address he briefly introduced the DSRCF telling that since its inception, it was striving to bring in the culture of peace and amity in this sub-continent.

**Allama Khursheed Kamal (Punjabi Poet)** translated the Surah Akhlas from Quran. He



explains that Mool Mantar and Surah Akhlas tell us the Oneness of God, Who gives us food and all the blessings.

**Sardar Gurvinder Paal Singh (Party Leader DSGMC Jatha)** said that congratulations on the day



of Khalsa Panth and Vesakhi. He added that this land is holy land as it belongs to our Seven Gurus. I love this piece of land, Pakistan, from the core of my heart. We feel great pleasures to come in Pakistan. This is our homeland and we are belongs to Pakistan spiritually. We observed the internal peace and relaxation at this place. He asked from Sikh Yatrees whether they not feel as he observed. In response from Sikh Yatrees, hall was echoed with slogans of "So Nahal, Sat Sri Akal". He thanked the Pakistani Management. He thanked specially to Mr. Siddiq ul Farooq, Chairman ETPB and Mr. Imran Khan on their diligent efforts to accommodate the Sikh Yatrees. He also said that all the Sikh yatrees were very pleased with the intensive caring of Pakistani Gurdwaras. He thanked all the ETPB and DSRCF staff members as well as Director DSRCF for their tireless efforts for all the Sikh Yatrees to accommodate and facilities them. He raised the

slogans of Wahe Guru Ji ka Khalsa  
Wahe Guru Ji ki Fateh.

**Jathedar Balvinder Singh (Party Leader SGPC Jatha)** said that they were celebrated Khalsa Panth and Vesakhi on 14 April. Pakistani



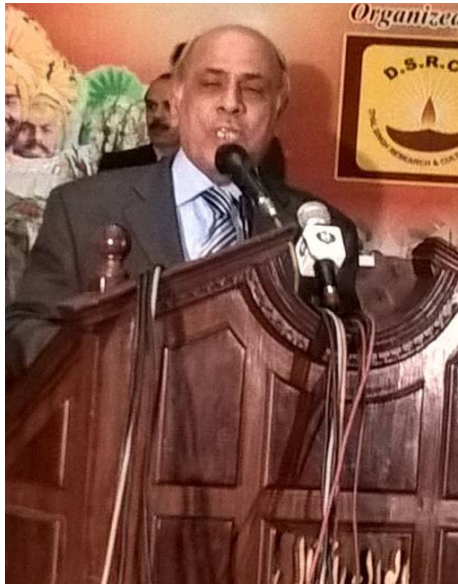
Government organized special arrangements of transports to visits our religious sites. He requested to Pakistan government to celebrate the Birthday of Guru Nanak Ji in Pakistan as they celebrated it in Patna Sahib, India. He further requested that government of Pakistan issue Visas as much as possible to Sikhs from all over the globe that they also able to participate to celebrate the Birthday Celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Wahe Guru Ji ka Khalsa Wahe Guru Ji ki Fateh.

**Sardar Tara Singh Singh (Pardhan PSGPC)** welcomed all the Sikh Yatrees on the day of Vesakhi Celebrations. All of you are very lucky to visit the holy and religious sites of Sikhi. Every Sikh

had a wish to visit such holy places. He appreciated the government of Pakistan on excellent arrangements for Sikh Yatrees. He thanked the Mr. Siddiq ul Farooq whom renovate and open the closed Gurdwaras for Sikh Yatrees. He requested the audience that they must told their Sikh brothers in India about Pakistan's great hospitality and excellent arrangements. As they also know about that Sikh Holy places have not any danger and how Sikh Yatrees were treated in Pakistan.



**Malik Muhammad Rafiq Rajwana (Governor Punjab & Chief Guest)**



Malik Muhammad Rafiq Rajwana (Governor Punjab & Chief Guests) said regretfully that he was quite busy due to his tuff schedule. He welcomed all the Sikh Yatrees who came to Pakistan from all over the globe. He said that Vesakhi had been celebrated with Great Spirit in the past and it has been celebrated in both Punjab. Sikh Brothers celebrated cultural event full religious rites as Vesakhi celebrated birthday of KHALSA at the hands of the 10<sup>th</sup> Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Jee. He further said that we try our level best to give you finest hospitality. Our Prophet (PBUH) and Guru Nanak Ji spread the same message of Love. We always talk about the message of peace and harmony and discourage the terrorism. Pakistan is a country which victims of

terrorism and violent activities. We face the terrorism but we always gave the message of peace and harmony in all over the world. He ended his speech with slogan of "Long Live Pakistan" Shields were presented by the Chairman ETPB, Mr. Siddiq-ul-Farooq to the Chief Guest, Malik Rafiq Rajwana.

**Sardar Ramesh Singh Arorra (MPA, Punjab Assembly)**

welcomed the Sikh yatrees, who had gathered there from all over the globe. He said that you all Sikh Yatrees will go back with golden memories of Pakistan. Because human beings is only remembered the love and adore which you got here in Pakistan. The relation of Sikh Nation with Pakistan is connected by our Gurus. He added that media also played their positive role. He also thanked to Mr. Siddiq Ul Farooq whom give love and best hospitality to all Sikh Yatrees.



**Sardar Manmohan Singh Khalsa**  
**(Chairman, World Muslim Sikh Federation)**



said we must be united for sake of our Sikhi. We must strictly reject the hurdles and all the conspiracies in way of Sikhi. The Sikhs should have not considered themselves free and liberated until unless Khalistan is not made. Khalistan would be the country where all religious communities would sense of pride and peaceful co-existence. He ended his speech with slogans of “Wahe Guru Ji ka Khalsa Wahe Guru Ji ki Fateh”

**Mr. Siddiq-ul-Farooq (Chairman, ETPB)** recites the Holy Quran and congratulations on 318<sup>th</sup> Khalsa Panth. He thanked the Sikh Yatrees whom came here to celebrate the Vesakhi and give us chance to serve. Pakistan’s all departments whom participated in your arrangements and accommodation, are also ready to upcoming event, He announced on the occasion that he will start 100 rooms for Sikh Yatrees at Nanakana Sahib within

2 or 3 weeks. He also announced that four companies also registered for your services and Visas. If we talking about human beings, than Sikh, Muslim, Christian, Jewish are just religion but they are human beings first. He also mentioned that more than 100 million grant has been approved and send to the accounts and further 100 million grant will sent within the few months. He requested for prayer for himself and said that I will work for you in the same capacity in future and hope that Allah will be bestowed on me for this prestigious work. He ended his speech with slogans of Pakistan Zindabad, Sikh Muslim Dosti Zindabad

At the end, Shields were presented by the Chairman ETPB, Mr. Siddiq-ul-Farooq to the speakers. After the programme the guests totaling over 500 were served with Hi-Tea. It is worth to be mentioned that 500 copies of recent and previous issues of “Punjab de Rang” were distributed among the yatrees during the seminar.



## Vesakhi Celebrations in Pakistan 2017



Governor Punjab welcomed by Director DSRCF, Chairman ETPB and Pardhan PSGPC



View of Audience at Aiwan-e-Iqbal

## Vesakhi Celebrations in Pakistan 2017



View of Audience at Aiwan-e-Iqbal



Saropa ceremony

## Sikhs Protest against India in Memory of Sikh Massacres 1984

It was on the 6 June 1984 that the Indian Government had culminated the most brutal act against Sikhs, one of the minority communities in their own country. Their most venerated Shrine of Darbar Sahib and the supreme temporal authority, Sri Akal Takht were destroyed by their own Indian army. Code-named Operation Blue Star it was an Indian military operation, ordered by then Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi. The operation was carried out by Indian army troops with tanks, artillery, helicopters and armoured vehicles causing martyrdom of thousands of Sikhs including old, children and women, who had gathered at their holiest Shrine on the Martyrdom Anniversary of their fifth Guru, Guru ArjanDevJi. Among the martyred was also SantJarnail Singh Bhindranwale, one of their great heroes.

To commemorate the Day and record their protest as also condemning the Indian Government and their Justice system, the Sikhs all over the world take out protest rallies and marches. Sikhs community from all over Pakistan also held protests at many places but the major among them was in front of GurdwaraDera Sahib, Lahore with multiple types of banners and streamers not only on the road side of Gurdwara but also inside of the Gurdwara. These banners and streamers presented the sentiments

of the Sikhs of Pakistan demanding of the Indian government and the whole world at large to give them justice still denied even after 33 years.

The protest march was followed by an assembly of the mourning Sikhs, who being more than two hundred in numbers, including men, women and students were also reminded of the heinous act of 1984 with tableau of Sikh children from Nankana Sahib. Actually this Tableau was presented and prepared by the child students of Guru Nanak Dev High School, Nankana Sahib. The theme of tableau revolved around the bloody events of Operation Blue Star. The tableau was played for about 60 minutes and was immensely appreciated by the audience. Some News channels recorded it completely. Everyone was stunned on the performance of Kids. The National media were also present there for the coverage of the Event.

The gist of the speeches delivered on this 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the mournful day is given hereunder:-

**Sardar Gopal Singh Chawla (Secretary PSGPC):** He said that they had gathered here to commemorate 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the day of 6 June 1984, the worst of the Sakas in Sikh history. After 6 June 1984, everyday is 6 June. He personally thanked all the Sikh Sangat and especially Janam



Singh, who organized 6 June 1984 child tableau. We can never forget 1984. Sri Akal Takht was reduced to debris when Indian tanks attacked it. Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindrawal had only 155 men while Indian Army descended on Akal Takht with thousands of commandos. Most terrible and heinous aspect of this attack was that many of the thousands did not die due to army attack but they died due to hunger and thirst as they were holed inside the premises of the Shrine. He wanted to ask from United Nations whether they worked only for Hindus, Jews or Americans only. Why UN not took any action against India. Why they did not support us on Sikh Genocide 1984. Imran Khan personally liked

Sardar Swarn Singh, who was killed in religious hatred by a Hindu in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Once Imran was asked why he liked only Sardar Swarn Singh on in the whole of KP assembly? He answered that they were a community who consisted of only 2% but they reigned over the region for 40 40 years. Even a large Army could never face the 500 Sikhs if they are true followers of Guru Ji. The best example is of the 1984 Sikh holocaust when only 155 Guru-followers killed 9,000 of Indian Army men. We would never ever forget this bloody event.

**Sardar Ranjeet Singh (Granthi Gurdwara Dera Sahib):**

He referred Guru Arjun Dev Ji as the first martyred-Guru of Sikhi Panth. Guru Teg and all four little



princes were martyred because they raised the voice of truth against cruelties, barbarism and violation of rights. Although every religion had its own status of martyrdom we were a small community in the world but our martyrs were innumerable. Guru of martyrs bore the barbarism of Hindutva. He was thrashed on hot places and in was scorching sand but he bore all those hardships for the religion. But we did not do anything for our religion and blamed each other a lot. He said that he saluted all the martyrs of 1984 Sikh genocide whose sacrifices gave life not only to Sikhs but the whole humanity. May Guru Dev accept your presence here and bless you all

**Sardar Balwant Singh (Granthi, Gurdwara Janamasthan)**

1984 is the worst example of killing the human being in history of Sikhs. Infact, this attack was not

on a building, but it was on Sikhs' heart and soul. Beant Singh and Satwant Singh took revenge of the desecration of Sri Darbar Sahib. General Brarr, too met the same fate. This is the worst example of genocide. The Sarowar water was red with the blood of Sikhs. We have gathered here to commemorate that Saka and record our protests against Indian government that we, Sikhs would never ever forget the Sikh holocaust 1984. He then prayed for the martyred Sikhs.

**Sardar Dya Singh:**

The background of 1984 attack went back to the attack on Akal Takht by Indian government, at that day of 13 April 1978 when Sikhs celebrated the Vesakhi. Government of India announced that they wanted to catch just one person. The thing is that if they had come to catch one man why they came with so large numbers of



army personnel. We let our shoes out of that place and cover our heads when entering those premises but the Indian Army entered with shoes and tanks. Our Sikhs always sacrificed their lives for Indian Army. But when they desecrated our holy places 155 persons were killed by no less than 9000 Indian Army commandoes. They killed 155 persons including our mothers, sisters, children who had gathered there how it was possible for them to forget it. Wahe Guru Jika Khalsa Wahe Guru Jiki Fateh.

**Sardar Harjeet Singh Kanwal**  
**(Counselor Nankana Municipal Committee)**

We have today gathered on Guru ArjunDev's martyr place to observe the day of our hero



SantJarnail Singh Bhindrawale. This incident happened in 1984 when Indian army descended on our most holy place Akal Takht. I could not express all the story but would share my thoughts with you. SantJarnail Singh

Bhindranwale sacrificed his life for sake of Sikhi. He was the person who gave us separate identity and demand for Khalistan. He said that this was a reality that Sikhs were not Hindus. I have not come here to disgrace the Hindu religion. But it is the need of the hour that we were recognized as a separate entity. we understand that we are followers of Nanakshahi calendar not a Bikrami Calendar. If we want to break the slavery of Brahmanwad we need to follow strictly the Nanakshahi calendar. In Delhi, we are all witness of the case of cutting-off the Kais of Sikh child. This is really shameful act by Indian government that they did not take any strict action against culprits. Even they pressurized the parents of Sikh child to record their statement that the child cut-off his Kais on his own will. Our wrath against Indian government is still alive until unless they gave us our rights. UNO must take initiative to give us our rights from Brahman government. Khalistan is only hope for our safe haven. We must stand united to get Khalistan from India.

**Baba Gurmeet Singh:**

He read a patriotic poem, which was widely applause by the audience.



**Sardar Maninder Singh**  
**(Member PSGPC):**

6 June 1984 was a memory of Saka Sahib. This was the attack on our holies places, Akal Takht and Darbar Sahib. Our Sikh brothers were killed and our Guru Granth Sahib desecrated. Even Sikhs have not been given back the articles of Sikh Reference Library after 33 years. We condemn it vehemently. There are four significant things about the place where we are currently sitting. When Sant Bhindranwale raised his voice for the rights of Sikhs, he was martyred by Indian State. During 1984 Operation Blue Star, Golden Temple Complex was besieged by Indian Forces. All doors were shut to stop the any possibility of exit of any person. On my right side, there



is a Maharaja Ranjeet Singh Murrhi. Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee headquarters are also located here while Minar-e-Pakistan is also in proximity of Gurdwara Dera Sahib. This was the place where Lahore Resolution was passed. If Indian government titled us as a rebel so we are. Our every child must know that we are rebels just for our Sikh Panth.

**Sardar Bishan Singh (Ex-Pardhan PSGPC)**

I welcome you all Sikh Sangat who have come from all over Pakistan. 6 June 1984 is always remembered as the Sikh Genocide. Sikhs were brutally killed from 3 June and Indian Army attacked on 5 June in late night. All Sikhs are Amradhari who were inside the Gurdwara Harmandir Sahib. Indian



Army bombarded Gurdwara Harminder Sahib around 10pm. When the army tried to enter into Harminder Sahib they faced great resistance from Sikhs. According to Indian Intelligence report, there was not a single weapon in the Harminder Sahib. They had planned to run over Harminder Sahib within few hours. But all went against their planning. 1100 Indian Army personnel were killed by Sikhs. Sant Janrial Singh had taken an oath from all Sikhs who were present in Harminder Sahib that they would fight until their last breath. According to Islam and Sikhi, martyrs are always immortal. Only General Brar is live while all other enemies of Sikh Panth of 1984 have tasted death. Smoking is strictly prohibited in

Sikhi religion. Indian Army gave water to Sikhs children mixed up with ash of cigarettes. They degraded the Sikhs in this way. A few were remaining alive who were killed through bullets. So many Sikh women were raped. Unfortunately, all the personnel who did such cruelties on Sikhs, were later raised in ranks by government. We are demanding from UNO to take strict action against such culprits. Even in Kashmir, Indian army killed innocent Kashmiris without any reasons. Freedom is every one's right. Whatever Indian government did, we must take Khalistan from India. I personally request to all the brave men of Punjab kindly they continue their efforts to get Khalistan.

**Ramesh Singh (Member Punjab Assembly):**

All the speakers discussed here



about the black day of 6 June 1984. Akal Takht was desecrated and destroyed through tanks and bombardment by the Indian government. We observe this day as a black day. We will present memorandum to UNO and Modi government that they must punish the culprits of 1984. On my right side, you can see Maharaja Ranjeet Singh Murrhy. He was a Sikh who reigned over Punjab for forty years. We also gave resolution in Punjab Assembly to the effect that some road of Lahore may be named in honor of Maharaja Ranjeet Singh. While on my left side you can also see Minar-e-Pakistan, where Lahore Resolution was passed. (Ramesh Singh Arora chanted the slogans of “Go Modi Go” and Khalistan Zindabad). It is worthy to mention here that Supreme Court accepted the resolution of Khalistan. RSS and other organizations try to distance Sikhs from their religion. Nanakshahi calendar was implemented after so many tests and it was finalized after high priest of Sikhs accepted

it. Unfortunately, India once again executed to implement the Bikrami Calendar. It is true that all the Sikh community of the world never ever forget the dreadful and atrocities meted out to Sikh. Even Sikh community never forgets the martyrs who sacrificed their lives to protect the sanctity of their most sacred place, Sri Darbar Sahib. Sikh nation can flourish only in the separate country - Khalistan. There is not safe future in India for Sikhs. 6<sup>th</sup> June is a black day in the history of mankind. The Indians who claim themselves secular, are totally unaware of the lesson of peace. It is everyone's birth-right to live free and sovereign. On the other side, Sikhs are given respect in Pakistan, while they are less than 1 percent of the whole population but Sikhs live a prosperous and happy life. On the other hand, we need to give more and more visas to Indian Sikhs who wanted to come here and witness of my words. Indian Sikhs must become our ambassadors and tell the others.

**There** is but one God, his name is Truth, he is the Creator, He fears none, He is without hate, He never dies, He is beyond the cycle of births and death, He is self illuminated, He is realized by the kindness of the true Guru. He was true in the beginning, He was true when the ages commenced and has ever been True, He is also true now.

**Guru Nanak Dev Ji**

## Sikhs Protest against India in Memory of Sikh Massacres 1984



Granthi recites the Guru Granth Sahib



Sikhs protest and chanting Anti-Indian Slogans



Children Re-enactment of 6 June 1984 Sikh Massacre

## The Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji Observed at Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore, Pakistan

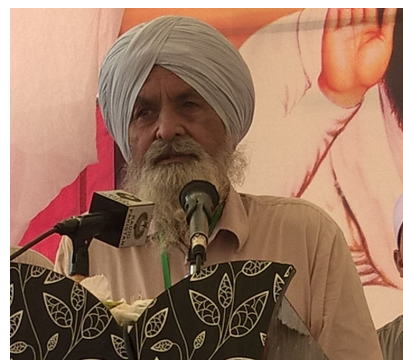
**Sardar Jaspal Singh**

The Martyrdom Day of Guru ArjanDevJi, which fell on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017, according to the Nanak Shahi Calendar, was observed by the local Sikhs and the Sangat comprising of 14 persons especially coming from across the border for the purpose. A Welcome function was arranged for the Sangat in the GurdwaraDera Sahib under the auspices of Pakistan Sikh GurdwaraParbandhak Committee. After observing the religious rites of the Sikhi and their culminating in the Bhog ceremony, the Chief Guest and other prominent leaders shared their views with the audience, mostly religious. A gist of these speeches is given as under:

**Sardar Gopal Singh Chawla, General Secretary PSPC**, acting as the Stage Secretary, said that they had gathered to observe the Martyrdom Anniversary of Guru ArjanDevJee. On behalf of PSGPC he heartily welcomed the Indian Sikh Yatrees. While pointing out

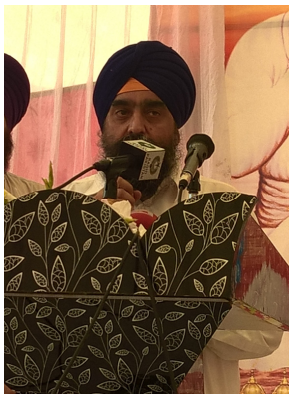
the small number of 14 yatrees coming from India, he said that these guests were to them equal to thousands of Sikhs. He thanked all the Pakistani Sikhs who stood with truth. He lamented the situation having only two political bodies having Sikh representation, the Indian Congress, which mostly went against the Sikh interests and the Shiromany Akali Dal, whose policies were only deceitful. He further said that the Pakistani Sikh bodies always supported the only original Nanakshahi Calendar hence they thought that those 14 guests who were of the same thinking were for them equal to millions of Sikhs. Those were the brave ones from the Sikh Panth, who agreed to and supported the original Nanakshahi calendar.

**Sukh Mandir Ji, Party Leader**, said in his address that they were very happy to have come to Pakistan and felt sorry for those who were unable to reach here. He thanked the Pakistani Sangat and the government for giving them



respect and love. He said that they would go back with the message of love from Pakistan. He further thanked wholeheartedly the government officials who served them with love, and were especially grateful to the Chairman ETPB for taking the pains to see that we felt at home wherever we went. He said that he humbly requested all the Sikh leaders to help remove the misunderstandings and controversies between different factions. He said that he liked Nanakshahi Calendar and supported it.

**Sardar Bishan Singh, Ex-Pardhan PSPC,** said in his speech



that he heartily welcomed all the Sikh Sangat which had gathered there on this religious occasion. He said that Guru Arjan Dev Ji himself gave sacrifices just for the Sikh Panth. He was the pioneer of Sikh Martyrs after whom the history of martyrdom in Sikhism started heroically. He further said that India stopped the Sikh Yatraes who wanted to come to Pakistan. India adopted most biased policies and violated religious mannerism on observing the Guru

Arjan Dev Martyrdom Day. Pakistani and Indian Sikhs remained united on Nanakshahi Calendar till 2010 but RSS pressurized the Akal Takht and other Sikh religious priests to cancelling the effect of original Nanakshahi calendar and to adopt Bikrami Calendar. India sabotaged the Akal Takht. He requested the Chairman ETPB to kindly do something for Guru ka Dewan and do some needful / suggested works for Chandu Ki Haveli.

**Jasbir Kaur Mister Sahib, India**



I thanked all the Sangat whom are presented here. I suggested to kindly removing all misunderstandings. I am really sorry for those whom are unable to reach Pakistan. I must pray all for those Sikh Yatraes that they came here next time. I am really thankful for government of Pakistan and Evacue Trust Property Board on such a magnificent administration and facilitation.

**Sardar Ramesh Singh Arorra,**  
**MPA Punjab Assembly,** I  
 personally welcome to all the Sikh  
 Yatrees whom came from all over



the globe. I pray for those whom  
 were unable to reach Pakistan. I  
 really encourage all the Sikhs for  
 showing firmness against Indian  
 Government on the issue of  
 crossing the border. I hope next  
 time India will not stopped by  
 force to Sikh Jatha. We must be  
 very vigilant because Sikh Panth is  
 prey of conspiracy of Hindus. RSS  
 once again stood against Sikhs and  
 swing the issue of whom are Sikhs.  
 The members of Jatha should be  
 telling the Indian Sikhs after going  
 back to India that how Muslim  
 administration made arrangements  
 for them. Relation of Sikhs and  
 Pakistan was like a flesh and nail.  
 These 14 Sikhs Yatrees are our  
 guests. Hopefully, all these Sikhs  
 should also be telling them as to  
 how Sikhs were warmly received  
 by Pakistanis. Wherever Sikhs  
 have been, they must be true  
 follower of Guru Sahiban.

**Sardar Taru Singh, Pardhan**  
**PSGPC,** welcomed all the Sikh  
 yatrees from all over the globe and

from India. I am stand with those  
 Sikhs whom were stopped by  
 India. Today, we were observed



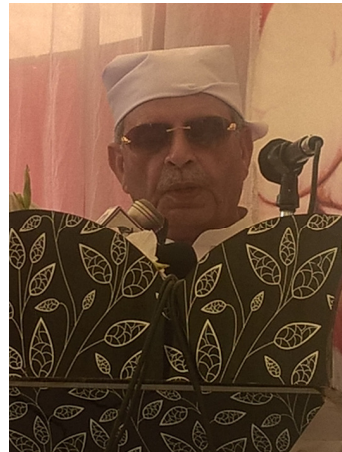
the Martyrdom Day of Guru  
 ArjanDevJi. Every nation has a  
 father. Akal Takth is acts like our  
 fathers. India has the most Sikhs as  
 compare with rest of the world.  
 Sikhs become prey of RSS  
 conspiracy and they were sent  
 backwards. The Sikhs always  
 prayed in theirArdas that they  
 should have been blessed with the  
 visit of those holy sites, from  
 which they were deprived. The  
 Indian administration intentionally  
 stopped the Sikhs to arrive in  
 Pakistan. You see that Pakistani  
 affectionate with you is exemplary.  
 They served you while they are  
 with fasting. You are a  
 ambassadors of Pakistan.

**Muhammad Siddiq-ul-Farooq,**  
**Chairman ETPB,** recites the  
 SuraAkhlas. I am very happy that  
 you 14 Sikh Yatrees and others  
 Sikh Yatrees came here to observe  
 the 411<sup>th</sup> Martyrdom day of Guru  
 Arjan Dev Ji. Guru Arjan Dev  
 spread the message to love the  
 humanity. He sacrifices his life just



for Sikh Panth. This is really ahonour for Sikh Panth. Islam teaches me to serve you as a human being. Sikhs and Muslims have a very long-lasting and deep relation. Baba Nanak wore the last dress which have words of Ayat-ul-Kursi. Baba Nanak pay obeisance in Makka. He also visited the Hazrat Ali (R.A) tomb. Baba Fareed's poems were also included in Guru Granth Sahib which shows the solidarity among Muslims and Sikhs. I want to warned you that you may be prey of conspiracy of division. The only solution to avoid this conspiracy is that you must be shows your unity on Sikh Panth. You must be follower of Original Nanakshahi calendar and Guru Sahiban. Our all efforts gone in vain, but India do such things which she must not to do so. India did not give permission to reach Pakistan. India creates nefarious acts against Sikhs. 550<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary will come next year in 2018. We cordially invite to Sikh nation from all over the globe to come Pakistan and visit their holy places. It is my immense pleasure to announce that all the Sikh issues has been meet with immediate effect.

### **Rana Tanveer Hussain, Minister of Production & Technology, all**



the Sikh Yatreas are welcomed to Pakistan. You are really lucky that you visits your holy places. Guru ArjunDev's life is without prejudice. He is the best examples for Sikh Panth. MrSiddiq-ul-Farooq did his best services. His contribution to the development and uplifting of Pakistani Gurdwaras could never be ignored or forgotten. On the other hand, India have bitter attitude towards Sikhs. India always restricted the Sikh Yatreas. Government of Pakistan is strictly against these acts. This is not a fare, the Indian secular face also disclosed before all worlds. Pakistan is the Islamic republic state. Pakistan encourages the minorities and they participate in all walk of life.

After the speeches the speakers were honoured with Siropas.

**The Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev Ji Observed at Gurdwara  
Dera Sahib, Lahore, Pakistan.**



Saropa Ceremony



View of Audience



View of Audience

## 178<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh

Sardar Jaspal Singh

Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the founder of the Sikh Empire came to power in the around the turn of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and ruled from 1799 to 1849. His father, Maha Singh was the Commander of the Sukerchakia Misl. Ranjit Singh followed in his courageous father's footsteps to become an even greater leader. He was born at a time when much of Punjab was ruled by the Sikhs under a Confederate Sarbat Khalsa system and the territory was divided among factions known as misls. He gathered a force of 10,000 to 12,000 horsemen and after taking the power into his hands eventually conquered the region of central Punjab from the Sutlej to the Jhelum, vastly expanded his territory and founded the Sikh Empire on the whole of Kashmir and to the borders of Afghanistan. Because of his bravery and courage he earned the title of "Sher-e-Punjab" (The Lion of Punjab).

He died in 1849 of natural causes and left behind a vast empire, which none of his successors was able to hold.

### Barsi Programme

On the occasion of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's 178<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary the Sikh Yatrees from India could not make it to Pakistan because of the hurdles created by their governments. However, the ceremonies went on and the Bhog

Ceremony of Akhand Path was arranged on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The Sangat from Pakistan was present on the occasion. In this ceremony, Chairman ETPB was the Chief Guest while the eminent Sikh personalities presented their views on the life and achievements of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

The gist of the views presented in the programme is given here below:

**Sardar Gopal Singh Chawla, General Secretary PSGPC**, who acted as the stage secretary to the proceedings, said that the Indian government tried its level best to divide Sikh nation by stopping the Indian Sikhs to come to Pakistan for this religious occasion. He said that their history was really amazing and fabulous. He challenged every researcher who was doing research on Maharaja Ranjit Singh that he would be amazed to come know that Sikhs ruled more than 40 years while their population was just 2% at that time. Every person was free to preach and worship according to his religion at time of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. No one was given



capital punishment during the whole reign of the Maharaja. A few wicked-advisers of Maharaja Ranjit Singh suggested that Azan should be banned as Muslims were thought to be against them. Maharaja replied to them that if they want to do so, they should form teams to awake the Muslims for their prayers. He would do only that because during his reign he would not ban any religion in his lands. Modi government could not do that act because he was against Sikhs. Unfortunately, the Sikhs had only two organizations, Akali Dal (Badal) and the other was Congress. He wanted to inform his Sikh brethren that congress party was an organization which massacred Sikhs in India. Modi's party always supported congress and that was really very sad for them. He further said that the need of the hour was to find loyal and brave leaders, who could lead the Sangat in every way.

**Sardar Maninder Singh, Member PSGPC**, said that they were sitting at such a holy place and observed the day of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Barsi. He was a man who ruled over Punjab more than forty years and proved that Sikhs were the true peaceful community. The Sikhs had lost their rule on Punjab because they quarreled with



each other to get the throne of Punjab. He said that he wanted to give a message to Modi Government that the Sikhs must follow the original Nanakshahi calendar and observe the Gurburb till last of the Sikhs lived in Pakistan. He thanked all the Sikh Sangats, who had come to observe the Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Barsi.

**Professor Sardar Kalyan Singh Kalyan**, during his speech thanked



all the sangats and the officials and others for attending the Barsi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Sardar Maninder Singh told the audience as to how the Sikhs had lost the throne of Punjab. He further said that there was no doubt that Maharaja Ranjit Singh wanted to make Punjab as an Inter-faith piece of land. He said that he wanted to tell that Maharaja was the master of Punjab Throne but his Prime Minister was a Muslim i.e. Faqeer Aziz Uddin. Faqeer Aziz Uddin was awarded highest rank in the Darbar of Ranjit Singh. Maharaja Ranjit Singh always followed the advice and suggestions of Faqeer Aziz Uddin. He also wanted to tell his Sikh brother and sisters that whatever they studied in the history of Sikhs might be only interpretation of rule. Guru Nanak made Bhai Mardana his brother who

was a Muslim, Budhu Shah was Muslim, but helped the Fifth Guru, Hazrat Mian Mir was a close friend of the Fifth Guru. The Sikhs were successful in Punjab because Muslims agreed and invited Maharaja Ranjit Singh to rule here. Although Ranjit Singh's father attacked Lahore in 1790 yet he failed due to some conspiracies. Although at that time almost 3,000 Muslims were killed due to support of Maha Singh, father of Ranjit Singh. He further said that Sikh Muslim friendship had very old history. Sikhs were always betrayed by Hindus. Guru Sahib and his sons were killed by Chandu. He said that it was worth mentioning that Nehru belonged to Sixteenth or Seventeenth generation of Chandu. He requested all Pakistani Sikhs to be united to face them and need of the hour was to strengthen the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee.

**Sardar Bishan Singh, Ex-Pardhan PSGPC**, in his speech warmly welcomed all the guests. He said that they had gathered there to observe the Barsi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. He was camped at Shalimar Garden before attacking Lahore. People gathered here to welcome him. Maharaja



Ranjit Singh and his loyal companions ruled over Khyber. It was only possible because Muslims supported him. Faqeer Aziz Uddin had the major role to play in the government of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. He said that the Indian Government was against the Original nanakshahi calendar and they stopped all the Sikh Yatrees on the border. He said that he requested SGPC Pardhan Manjit Singh Sarna that he must leave the politics on religion because they had many other issues to settle. This was the biggest mistake ever to stop the Sikh Yatrees although this kind of blunder was also made by Bibi Jagir Kaur but she apologized and admitted her mistake. Same deed was done by Badungar, although Badungar had a lot of pressure by Akali Dal, Central Government.

**Sardar Ramesh Singh, Member Punjab Assembly**, thanked all the



Sikh Yatrees and guests. He said that they had gathered to observe the Barsi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the best example of interfaith-harmony. It was the rule of social justice and law and order. He condemned on stopping the Sikh Yatrees who wanted to come here to observe the

Maharaja Ranjit Singh Barsi. Indian government showed that they were secular but in fact they were most biased and conservative minded country that always used force on minorities. He requested the Indian government to set Sikhs free if they wanted to visit Pakistan.

**Sardar Tara Singh, Pardhan PSGPC,** said that they had



gathered to observe the Barsi of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who ruled over Punjab with great dignity. In his reign, Muslims were also very happy. Chandu did conspiracy against Guru Ji. He said that they were all very well aware of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth generation of Chandu i.e. Gandhi and Indira Gandhi, who betrayed the Sikhs and massacred them ruthlessly. Sikhs protested in Pakistan and in India against them. It was the time to gather on day of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Barsi but Hindu Brahman always went against the so they did not let the Sikh Yatraes come to Pakistan. He condemned these policies of Hindu Brahman.

**Mr. Muhammad Siddiq-ul-Farooq, Chairman ETPB,** spoke that they did not divide Sikh



nation because only enemy of Sikh did that and they were the worst enemies of Sikh Muslims friendship. He said that he want to convey this message through media that Sikh nation knew about these conspiracies and would crush them. He further said that Pakistan was the safest haven on earth for minorities. He further told that every member of all religions had equal rights in Pakistan to preach and worship openly in their worship places. He said that Rupees five million had been granted for development and renovation of each of the Gurdwaras while more than 1,000 million granted for University.

He said I requested to all Sikh nation to end the hatred sentiments which were arose by Hindu Brahman against them and crush these conspiracy against them. The Badal government, Indian Shiromani Committee and other Sikh bodies should have their role in persuading Modi to come on the table to discuss the bilateral issues for the lasting peace in South Asia. At the end he prayed that the Sikh Muslim friendship should grow from stronger to strongest.

## 178<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh



Left to Right: Sardar Bishan Singh, Additional Secretary (Shrines), Chairman ETPB and Sardar Tara Singh, Pardhan PSGPC



Sikhs Chanting Anti-Indian slogans against stopping the Indian Sikh Yatrees

## PSGPC Protests Against India On Stopping Sikh Yatrees To Visit Pakistan, At Lahore Press Club, On 07-07-2017

Courtesy: Daily The News, Lahore



Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee (PSGPC) and hundreds of other Sikh community members staged a peaceful protest demonstration against India on Friday 07 July 2017 for stopping Indian Sikh yatrees from visiting Pakistan. The participants condemned Indian policies towards its Sikh community and denying them permission to visit Pakistan for attending death anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, observed in Lahore last month. Pardhan PSGPC Sardar Tara Singh and other Sikh community leaders condemned Indian policies towards its minorities particularly against Sikhs and Muslims. The protesters while carrying placards and banners raised slogan against Modi-led Indian government.

Sardar Tara Singh, Pardhan PSGPC, said that refusing entry to Indian Sikh yatrees from visiting Pakistan by the Indian authorities was also in violation of United Nations' (UN) Charter as well as against all bilateral agreements between India and Pakistan. We would raise this issue

at all world forums, including Common wealth countries, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries and Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), etc., and would also request world bodies to take notice of India's shameful acts towards its minorities, He requested Pakistan's foreign office to take up this issue with world community to expose Modi-led Indian government policies against Sikhs and Muslims.

Secretary General PSGPC said that the Indian government wanted to divide Sikh community through such policies, which the entire Sikh community would not allow to happen. He vowed to continue their protest against India at Wagah Border and in Islamabad in coming days. He further said that Pakistan was taking exemplary steps to facilitate Sikh community particularly those coming from the neighbouring country whereas India was creating hurdles for them from visiting their sacred religious places located in Pakistan.